

VIRGINIA OYSTERS NOT DANGEROUS

Interesting Report Submitted to Commission of Fisheries by Health Department.

Almost the entire session of the State Fisheries Commission was taken up yesterday with a report submitted by Drs. Allen W. Freeman and Meade Ferguson, concerning the condition of oysters in Virginia from a standpoint of public health. The examination was made at the instance of the Health Department of the State.

Dr. Freeman read the paper, which was listened to with great interest by all the members of the commission.

The report of the experts of the State Health Department is highly favorable to the condition of the oysters in Virginia, and the commission seemed not only satisfied, but pleased with it.

The salient points of the report follow:

Hampton Creek.

This is a small tidal estuary, practically all salt, the shores of which are thickly populated. It is not an important oyster ground, as the inhabitants of the surrounding districts are unwilling to use the oysters coming from its waters. A few, however, are taken and sold locally.

The waters of the creek are grossly polluted. In addition to the sewage from the town of Hampton, which enters it, it receives the drainage from large institutions on its banks. Evidence of local and gross pollution are numerous.

Samples of the water of the creek and of oysters taken from it show the presence of the colon bacillus with regularity.

In the opinion of the investigators, oysters from Hampton Creek are unfit for human consumption.

Pagan's Creek.

This is another tidal estuary, emptying into James River, with the town of Smithfield at its head. The oyster culture is small in extent and the product used locally.

The only source of pollution is the town of Smithfield. The inhabitants depend largely on earth closets. There are, however, evidences of gross pollution of the water front of the town and bacteriological examination of the water and of oysters shows the presence of the colon bacillus.

We are of opinion that oysters from Pagan's Creek are unfit for human consumption.

Nansemond River.

The pollution of the Nansemond is incalculable. The town of Suffolk depends for the most part on primitive means of disposal, and the surface washings of the small stream are not large enough in amount to affect the large body of salt water which it flows. Along the banks of the estuary there is no gross pollution worthy of the name. The country is not thickly settled, and there is only an occasional country house on the shore.

Owing to very unfavorable weather conditions, only one specimen was taken from the Nansemond. This did not show the presence of the colon.

In the opinion of the investigators, the waters of the Nansemond River are perfectly safe at the present time for oyster culture.

Elizabeth River.

The Elizabeth River is in the heart of the most populous part of the Tidewater section of Virginia. Its banks are lined with cities and towns, and it sustains a very large commerce. A large proportion of the oysters taken from the Elizabeth are used for food, and only a small amount is marketed. The consumption of the marketed product is mostly local.

The pollution of the Elizabeth is gross. It receives the sewerage of two large cities, and numerous smaller ones. The tidal currents carry this sewerage into the branches, and bacteriological examination showed the presence of the colon bacillus in practically every instance.

The investigators are of opinion that oysters from the Elizabeth River, its southern branch, or the eastern branch of the Virginia Bridge, are unfit for human food, and that the river and the branches mentioned should be given up for oyster culture.

York River.

The York is a broad tidal stream, stretching for about forty miles from the Chesapeake to the junction of the Pamunkey and Mattaponi Rivers. Its broad reaches are admirably adapted to oyster culture, and most of the area is so used.

The pollution of the York is inconsiderable in amount. The town of West Point, with a population of about 1,500, furnishes the only point of pollution of any size. This is not large in amount as the town is not sewered, and the effluent in the river is enormous. Other than this, there is no discoverable gross pollution of the river. A few farm houses at long intervals, and one or two villages of small size constitute the population of the banks.

We are of opinion that oysters from York River are of good sanitary quality.

Rappahannock River.

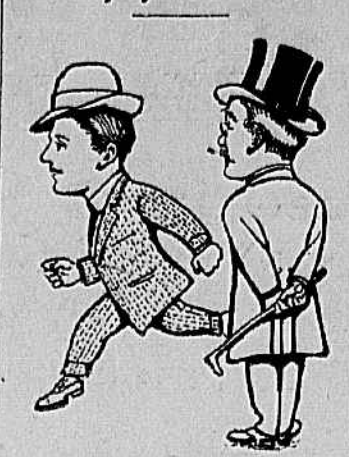
The Rappahannock, similar in its general features to the York, constitutes a very important oyster area. The river is very wide, and the waters of crystal clearness, and the conditions almost ideal for oyster culture.

There is no considerable pollution of any size on the river. It is located many miles above the highest oyster beds, and lower down there are only a few small towns. Bacteriologically the results are exceedingly favorable. Of the specimens examined, coming from seventeen localities along the river, none showed the presence of the colon bacillus. We are of opinion that oysters from the Rappahannock are of the good sanitary quality.

Potomac Oysters Good.

We are of opinion that oysters from

"Berry's for Clothes"



The dash and "smart effect of youth" is what appeals to most men even if they are not "in the running."

Here are "smart effects" in sizes from 32 up to 60.

Sack Suits, \$12.80 to \$35.00.

Prince Albert Coats and Vests, \$28 and \$33.

English Walking Coat Suits, \$20 to \$35.

Come and see them.

O.H. Berry & Co.
MEN & BOYS' OUTFITTERS
Successors to the Merchant Tailors

The Potomac are of good sanitary quality.

Mathock Bay, Ware River, Severn River, North River and East River.

As these constitute a practically continuous sheet of water, they are taken together. As seen from inspection, the Moblack and its tributary rivers is one of the most beautiful sheets of water in the bay territory. The waters are wide and of crystal clearness, and form an ideal oyster ground. A large part of the area is given up to the industry. There is no gross pollution of these waters, as there is no town of any size in the whole area. A few private homes on the banks furnish only a small amount of polluting material, lost in the large volume of water in the rivers and bay.

The area is without doubt perfectly safe for oyster culture. Bacteriological results from seven localities were negative.

Summary of Results.

For the most part, it may be said that the waters at present used for oyster culture are perfectly safe from the sanitary standpoint. The streams condemned are small and constitute only a small percentage of the oyster grounds of the State. No process has yet been devised for cleaning the shells before shucking. The oyster's shell is rough, and cleaning is not an easy matter. Could some method be devised for this cleaning, the subsequent washing in water might be dispensed with, ready being taken to the oyster's natural liquid, adding much to the flavor of the product.

As to Floating Oyster.

In the complaints reaching the department before the commencement of the investigation, a prominent feature was always given to the evils of floating oysters. By floating is meant the process of placing the oysters, before shucking, in water containing less salt than that from which they came, this change causing the oysters to swell and making the yield per bushel of oysters greater than it would normally be.

During the investigation every effort was made to see this process in operation without success. The packers around Hampton Roads freely admitted that they had been using the process, but stated that owing to the protests of the health officials and the people they had given up the practice. As far as could be learned this is the fact, as no evidence of floating could be obtained.

The process in use is simple. The oysters are placed in a large float, which is towed to the head of one of the streams, where the water is brackish, and the oysters allowed to remain in the water for two or three tides. They are then taken directly to the shucking house and shucked before they lose the added bulk.

According to the packers this process is possible only on a large scale, and they insist that the oysters are cleaner, and keep better than untreated oysters, and these facts could not be tested, as the process was not in use at the time of our visit.

Found in Every Sample.

Visit was made to the waters in which the largest of the dealers had their oysters. The water was examined for the colon bacillus. The colon was found in every sample examined.

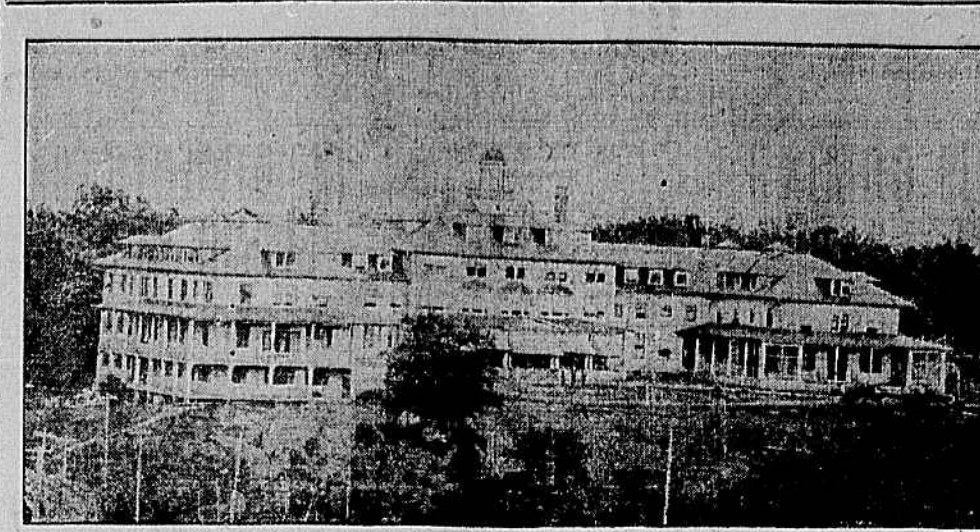
We are of opinion the floating as formerly practiced is dangerous to the public health, and the dealers had better be allowed only under rigid supervision, after inspection of the waters in which the floating is to be done.

We believe that if these facts are brought to the attention of the packers, the practice will be abandoned, as they realize the influence of public sentiment in the matter fully.

Farmer Ill at Memorial.

E. E. Chandler, of Clarksville, Va., was brought to the Memorial Hospital yesterday afternoon suffering from an acute case of peritonitis. He was operated on, but the chances are against his recovery. Chandler, who has been in his community for a number of years, was stricken on Tuesday morning.

"The Mecklenburg," at Chase City, Destroyed by Fire.



FLAMES DESTROY THE MECKLENBURG

Famous Hotel at Chase City Is Now a Heap of Ruins.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

CHASE CITY, Va., April 16.—The Mecklenburg Hotel, where guests, including persons from Richmond, Norfolk, Baltimore, Washington, New York and other places in the East, were quartered, was today totally wrecked by flames, which originated on the third floor of the frame structure. The fire broke out from the first, and the flames spread rapidly, and the efforts of the local fire department, which is inadequate to cope with such a conflagration, were almost solely confined to saving the furniture and the personal effects of guests.

The blaze was discovered in a cupola on the roof, and none of the officials knew of its existence until a stranger ran into the office and made the report. The report that the building was on fire was immediately spread and the guests were at once notified. Few of them lost any of their personal effects, and the ground in front of the building is now littered with articles of furniture and the trunks of the occupants of the house.

Loss is \$200,000.

The estimated loss is \$200,000, with only \$75,000 insurance. Probably \$75,000 in furniture was saved by the volunteer work of citizens who reached the scene before the fire got into the lower story. The fire broke out about the middle of the house, and down the shaft the fire crept.

A. J. Cooke, manager, was so intent on protecting the guests that he lost all his household goods. W. T. Hughes, joint owner in the property, was also, with his family, at the hotel, when the fire broke out. His room was located on the first floor, and he saved practically all his furniture. Few of the guests were unable to have their goods removed from danger.

The proprietors of the hotel had long felt that a fire would mean an absolute loss of the property, and the heating apparatus, as well as the electric lighting plant, had always been maintained in adjoining houses. No money was expended for the purpose of building an annex to the present structure. The members were unanimously in favor of adopting the suggestion. The improvement will consist in a new dining room, a women's dining room and a new space for a cafe.

The meeting lasted scarcely an hour, and the vote was accepted with applause. There was a reception and supper following the meeting. It is generally understood that the hotel will assume responsibility for the insurance of bonds.

TEN TWO-MINUTE SPEECHES AT METHODIST MEETING

In the Broad Street Methodist Church at 3:30 o'clock to-morrow afternoon the quarterly mass-meeting of the Methodist Sunday-School Society of Richmond will be held. A special program has been prepared in the interest

A Famous Resort.

The Mecklenburg, which was the headquarters of the Virginia Fox Hunters' Association, was considered one of the chief resorts in the South. The hotel was an all-year resort, and was almost always filled with guests.

Especially in the summer the guests are numerous, and at this season there were many traveling men, and many others had time to move their belongings. There was very little wind, and it is believed that an adequate fire department could have prevented the catastrophe. The fire was confined to the main hotel.

COFFEE DOESN'T HURT ME

Tales That Are Told.

"I was one of the kind who wouldn't believe that coffee was hurting me," says a N. Y. woman. "You just couldn't convince me its use was connected with the heart and stomach trouble I suffered from most of the time."

"I'm troubled finally got so bad I had to live on milk and toast almost all the time for three or four years. Still I loved the coffee, and wouldn't believe it could do such damage."

"What I needed was to quit coffee and take nourishment in such form as my stomach could digest. I had no idea I had had much about Postum, but I thought it would fit my case until one day I decided to try coffee and give it a trial and make sure about it. So I got a package and carefully followed the directions."

"Soon I began to get better, and was able to eat regular solid foods and digest them, and it was not long before I was really a new woman physically."

"Now I am healthy and sound, can eat anything and everything that comes along, and I know this wonderful change is all due to my having needed through this delicious Postum."

"My wonder is why every one don't give up the old coffee and the troubles that go with it, and build themselves up as I have done, with Postum."

"Easy to prove by a 10 days' trial of Postum in place of coffee. The reward is big."

"There's a Reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true and full of human interest.

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Virginia—Fair, warmer Saturday; Sunday fair; light southerly winds.

North Carolina—Fair Saturday; warmer in central portion; Sunday fair; light east to southeast winds.

CONDITIONS YESTERDAY:

8 A. M. temperature..... 52
Humidity..... 81
Wind, direction..... N.E.
Wind, velocity..... 12
Weather..... Clear
Rainfall..... 0
Moon..... 0
2 P. M. temperature..... 67
Maximum temperature up to 5 P. M. 71
Minimum temperature up to 5 P. M. 50
Mean temperature..... 60
Normal temperature..... 62
Excess in temperature yesterday..... 3
Deficiency in temperature since March 1..... -41
Accum. excess since March 1..... 324
Excess in rainfall since March 1..... 0.95
Accum. deficiency in rainfall since January 1..... 9.13

CONDITIONS IN IMPORTANT CITIES (at 8 P. M., Eastern Standard Time.)

Place	Ther.	H.T.	Weather
Ashville	44	50	Clear
Atlanta	71	80	Clear
Buffalo	56	62	Cloudy
Chicago	55	59	Rain
Cincinnati	72	78	Cloudy
Davenport	54	62	Rain
Detroit	53	70	Rain
Hartford	50	58	Clear
Jacksonville	64	74	Clear
Kansas City	69	66	Clear
New Orleans	70	78	Clear
Philadelphia	50	54	Clear
Pittsburgh	70	74	Clear
Raleigh	66	71	Clear
Richmond	52	62	Clear
Tampa	76	81	Clear
Washington	62	68	Clear
Yellowstone	52	62	Clear

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

April 17, 1930.

Sun. rises..... 5:21
Sun. sets..... 6:45
Moon rises..... 4:15
Moon sets..... 4:15

High tide..... 2:15
Low tide..... 8:15

be some weeks before the work of reconstruction is begun.

The Mecklenburg was established in November, 1902, and had been open continuously since. The hotel was conducted by a corporation, and the holdings are largely held by the estate of M. L. T. Davis, formerly of Norfolk. W. T. Hughes, who is also interested financially, is Mr. Davis's son-in-law. Henry H. Walter, Richmond, is attorney for the corporation.

The American Beagle Association, one of the most noted sporting organizations in America, held its sessions at the hotel last fall, and many other national sporting organizations have been drawn to Virginia on account of the excellent hunting and fishing in the Mecklenburg.

It is said that preparations were practically completed for a big fox hunt next fall, and it is also stated that other fraternities have accepted Chase City for their meetings in 1930.

Mann S. Quarles, of Richmond, with his wife, was among the guests of the hotel. Mr. Quarles sent out the first telegram conveying news of the fire.

TELL OF HOTEL FIRE

Arrivals on First Train from South Give Statements of Catastrophe.

At 4:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon the first passengers from Chase City, none of whom could give any account of the fire, reached Richmond. It was reported that the fire was burning furiously when the coaches passed Chase City shortly after noon. Those who boarded the train south of Chase City stated that the blaze could be seen for many miles.

It was less than half an hour before the arrival of the train that the fire broke out, and the guests were able to get aboard. An effort was made to delay the train without effect. There was no other means until midnight, when the train was delayed as a result of the fire could get away. No Richmond people were on the train and none of the railway officials was able to furnish details.

Dr. H. H. Walton, formerly resident physician at the hotel, was among the passengers who came in on the first train. Dr. Walton is a bank man at Chase City, was also among the passengers.

RATIFY BOND ISSUE

Members of the Commonwealth Club, in session last night, ratified the suggestion of the board of directors that bond issue of \$200,000 be authorized for the purpose of building an annex to the present structure. The members were unanimously in favor of adopting the suggestion. The improvement will consist in a new dining room, a women's dining room and a new space for a cafe.

The meeting lasted scarcely an hour, and the vote was accepted with applause. There was a reception and supper following the meeting. It is generally understood that the hotel will assume responsibility for the insurance of bonds.

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Sunday Services in City Churches

Grace Street Presbyterian Church—Rev. J. H. Winters, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. on "The Holy Spirit" and at 8 P. M. on "God's Hatred of Sin." Meeting in lecture room in morning before communion service.

Second Baptist Church—Rev. W. R. L. Smith, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. and 8 P. M.

First Church of Christ, Scientist—Services at 11 A. M. Subject, "Doctrine of Atonement."

St. James' Methodist Church—Rev. George P. Greene, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. on "Building Without Foundation," and at 8 P. M. on "The Quest of Higher Things."

Epworth Methodist Church—Rev. Otis M. Clarke, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. on "Hearts Bowed Down," and at 8 P. M. on "The Home of the Soul."

Third Christian Church—Rev. G. Culbertson, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. and at 8 P. M. "Prayer Saving the World."

First Unitarian Church—Rev. John L. Robinson, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. on "Faith and Character Through Human Activities." Sunday-school at 10 A. M.

Inmanuel Baptist Church—Rev. B. Franklin Bryan, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. on "A Vision of God," and at 8 P. M. on "The Touch of the Master." Millennium Dawn Service will be held in Smithfield Hall at 3 P. M. R. L. Smith will speak on "The True Children of God."

Calvary Baptist Church—Memorial service at 11 A. M. in honor of Rev. J. William Jones, D. D. Dr. J. P. Smith will speak. Rev. W. C. James will preach the annual sermon before Woman's Missionary Society at 8 P. M.

Seventh Day Adventist Church (North Main Street, near Main): Rev. Ben. House, pastor, will preach at 8 P. M. on "Who Are Seventh Day Adventists?"

Church of the Covenant, Presbyterian: Rev. J. C. Stewart, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. and 8 P. M.

Centenary Methodist Church: Rev. J. N. Latham, D. D., pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. Rev. W. P. Crafts, D. D., will preach at 8 P. M. on "An Interview With Count Okuma on the Foundations of Morality."

Marshall Street Christian Church: Rev. B. H. Melton, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. and 8 P. M.

Leigh Street Baptist Church: Rev. W. S. Dorset, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. Rev. Ryland Knight will preach the first of a series of evangelistic services at 8 P. M. which will be continued nightly at the same hour throughout the week.

Broad Street Methodist Church: Rev. G. Kelly, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. and at 8 P. M. on "The Origin of the Sin of Hate."

Randolph Street Baptist Church: Rev. W. E. Robertson, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. on "God's Presence," and at 8 P. M. on "The Unpardonable Sin."

Grove Avenue Baptist Church—Rev. W. C. James, pastor, will preach at 11

of the intermediate department. Ten two-minute answers by ten prominent church-school workers, given to some very practical questions, will be an attractive feature of the meeting.

EVENSEN SUES CITY

Wants \$10,000 Damages for Failing in

Suit was instituted yesterday in the Law and Equity Court by Christian Evensen, a caterer, against the city of Richmond and John C. Weinbaum, contractor, laying water mains for the city. Mr. Evensen, who lives near the New River, claims that on the night of December 17, 1928, while on his way home, he fell into a trench cut for a water main on Bland Avenue, near the southern embankment of the reservoir. In his allegation he states that the trench was about eight feet deep, was unprotected by guards or lanterns, and that the street was not lighted by the city. As a result of the fall Mr. Evensen suffered a broken hip and a sprained ankle, which he claims is permanently injured. Through Smith, Moncreux & Gordon, he asks \$10,000 damages, holding the city primarily responsible.

SEYBOLD AND TURPIN TO BE SENTENCED ON MONDAY

Thomas Seybold and Walter Turpin, both of whom have been pronounced guilty of devising a scheme to defraud the government in manufacturing counterfeit coins, will be sentenced Monday to the Federal prison in Atlanta. Seybold confesses his part in the crime, but Turpin sticks to his story that he is innocent. Judge Waddell reserved sentence in the case. Both men are experienced prisoners of the State Penitentiary. The limit of the law is a penalty of five years.

PAYS THE USUAL PENALTY IN DEATH CHAIR HERE

Berry Seaborn, a Greensville county negro, convicted of criminal assault and robbery, paid the penalty in the electric chair at the penitentiary at 7:30 o'clock yesterday morning.

Seaborn attempted to escape while in jail at Emporia. He afterwards petitioned the Governor for a commutation on the ground of after-discovery, but the Governor refused to grant nothing to warrant commutation.

Almost One-Half Raised.

At a meeting of the local committee in charge of raising the sum of \$50,000 for the erection of an industrial school in Greene county, in the Blue Ridge Mountains, yesterday afternoon the members reported the sum of \$23,000 already collected, and a bright outlook ahead for securing the remaining amount.

Leo Camp's Social Meeting.

Leo Camp had a social and patriotic session last night, with speechmaking and singing. Captain John Lamb and Rev. Mr. Edwards, of Harrisonburg, Va., spoke. There were a number of musical selections by Mr. Lamb, who also gave an informal hour of pleasant war talk.

Mary Jackson Goes to Jail.

Mary Jackson, alias Mary Bailey, colored, charged with stealing two dresses, four skirts and two ostrich feathers, all valued at \$25, from A. A. McCarty, was sentenced to four months in jail by Justice Crutchfield yesterday morning.

Several of the leading officers of the Salvation Army are expected to be here to-morrow and will take part in the service at the Reservoir at 3:30 P. M. together with many comrades and friends. The big salvation meeting will be held in the hall at 7 P. M., when special songs will be sung by the army quartet.

Mission Tabernacle Services.

Special services will be held at the Mission Tabernacle, 704 East Grace Street, to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock. They will be held daily at 11 o'clock and every night except Saturday at 8 o'clock.

The Easter Service will be held at the Male Orphan Asylum to-morrow afternoon at 4:30 o'clock.

Funeral of Mr. Benedict.

The funeral of Ira Benedict, formerly of Norfolk, will be held at 2 o'clock to-morrow at the home of his wife, Mrs. Mary J. Benedict, 1111 Taylor street.

Funeral of George Kinsley.

The funeral of George Kinsley, who died at his residence, 1111 Taylor street, yesterday, will be held at 2 o'clock to-morrow at the home of his wife, Mrs. Mary J. Benedict, 1111 Taylor street.

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Dunlop Flour



Costs No More Than Ordinary Flour

The profit on Dunlop Flour is smaller than on any other flour.

You Save the Difference.

A FACT ABOUT THE "BLUES"

What is known as the "Blues" is seldom occasioned by actual existing external conditions, but in the great majority of cases by a disordered LIVER.

THIS IS A FACT which may be demonstrated by trying a course of

Tutt's Pills

They control and regulate the LIVER. They bring hope and buoyancy to the mind. They bring health and elasticity to the body.

TAKE NO SUBSTITUTE.

by this city, who died in Portsmouth Wednesday, will take place this afternoon at 12:30 o'clock at the grave in Oakwood Cemetery. Mr. Benedict was in the sixty-sixth year of his age, and is survived by his wife and the following children: John W. Ira, George A. and E. S. Benedict and Mrs. R. H. Mace, of this city, and Miss Mace and Lottie Benedict, of Portsmouth.

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